

BLASTX, and TBLASTX, BLASTP and TBLASTN, publicly available on the Internet at ~~www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/BLAST/~~. See also, Altschul, *et al.*, 1990 and Altschul, *et al.*, 1997.

In the claims:

2. An isolated polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an EGVIII polypeptide having at least 85% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
- (b) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an EGVIII polypeptide having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
- (c) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an EGVIII polypeptide having at least 95% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
- (d) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an EGVIII polypeptide having the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
- (e) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an EGVIII polypeptide having at least 95% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:2;
- (f) a nucleic acid sequence which encodes or is complementary to a sequence which encodes an EGVIII polypeptide having the amino acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:2;
- (g) a nucleic acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:4, or the complement thereof; and
- (h) a nucleic acid sequence that hybridizes, under high stringency conditions to the sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:4, or the complement or a fragment thereof, wherein said isolated polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having the biological activity of an endoglucanase.

8. An expression construct including a polynucleotide sequence (i) having at least 85% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2), or (ii) being capable of hybridizing to a probe derived from the nucleotide sequence disclosed in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2) under conditions of intermediate to high stringency, or (iii) being

B8 complementary to a nucleotide sequence having at least 85% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2).

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18. A substantially purified EGVIII polypeptide with the biological activity of an endoglucanase, comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) an amino acid sequence having at least 85% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
  - (b) an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
  - B9 (c) an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
  - (d) an amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
  - (e) an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (f) an amino acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:2;
  - (g) a substantially purified biologically active fragment of the amino acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:2.
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25. A detergent composition, said composition comprising a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) an amino acid sequence having at least 85% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
- (b) an amino acid sequence having at least 90% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
- B10 (c) an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
- (d) an amino acid sequence presented in Figure 2 (SEQ ID NO:2);
- (e) an amino acid sequence having at least 95% sequence identity to the amino acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:2;
- (f) an amino acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:2;
- (g) a substantially purified biologically active fragment of the amino acid sequence presented as SEQ ID NO:2.